

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
October 8, 2008

The first regular meeting of the month of October of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Wheaton North High School, 1345 Jewell Road, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Andy Johnson, on Wednesday, October 8, 2008, at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members: Andrew Johnson
 Ken Knicker
 Marie Slater
 Joann Coghill
 Barbara Intihar
 Rosemary Swanson
 John Bomher

Also in Attendance: Dr. Richard W. Drury
 Dr. Lori Belha
 Dr. Robert Rammer
 Dr. Margo Sorrick

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Jill Bullo led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE HOST SCHOOL

Ms. Jill Bullo, Principal of WNHS welcomed the Board, administrators and community members. Ms. Bullo reported on some of the various curricular activities and classes that WNHS staff members participated in over the summer to show how they work towards the district belief that a “highly qualified, nurturing staff is necessary to ensure each student’s success.” Ms. Bullo stated that the staff at WNHS works very hard because they truly want all kids to succeed.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent reported the following:

- The City of Wheaton followed a process to interview and select a consultant to help develop the current Hubble site. The Planning Commission reviewed applications from 22 companies and interviewed six firms. At their last meeting, SB Freidman was hired as the consultant on the project.
- Meetings with Ms. Bullo and Dr. Snyder were held to discuss the high school student representatives to the Board of Education. This year the student reps will sit at the Board table and participate in discussions. The two principals are working with students to mentor them so they will feel comfortable at the table. Member Slater requested a time for the Board members to meet with the students prior to their first meeting. Dr. Drury stated that staff will make that arrangement. Dr. Drury also suggested that the Board hold one of the Chance to Chat sessions at each of the high schools and that the high school principals could encourage students to attend and talk with the Board.
- Several schools in the district participated in the Inter-National Walk to School Day. Dr. Drury, Dr. Rammer, and Mrs. Swanson all participated and were also joined by Wheaton Mayor Gresk. It was a wonderful event that encourages students to walk to school to save energy, reduce pollution, and improve their physical fitness.
- The fifth grade teachers from Bower School sent a letter to the administration and Board of Education thanking them for their support and help to the school following the September flooding. Dr. Drury read the letter.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Vendor Contracts – Recommend approval of the vendors for the 2008-09 school year as presented.
2. Approval to Purchase Replacement Copier of Bower – Recommend the approval to purchase the replacement copier for Bower School as presented. This replacement is necessary due to the flood and will be covered by the insurance policy.
3. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend approval of bills payable and payroll as presented.
4. Approval of Minutes –September 24, 2008 Open and Closed Minutes – Recommend the approval of the September 24, 2008 Open and Closed Session Minutes as presented. The Closed Session minutes will remain closed.
5. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Slater seconded to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of the FASTT Math (Fluency and Automaticity through Systematic Teaching and Technology)

Mathematics is one of two areas addressed by the Title 1 program. The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics has identified key curricular points needed across the grade levels in the various strands of math necessary for completing more complex math. Math fact fluency, or quick recall of facts, becomes foundational beginning in second grade in the number strand. One of the challenges students face is mastering math facts instead of relying on inefficient strategies

such as finger counting. A program has been developed that will assist students in learning their facts. It is an adaptive computer-based program focused on developing quick recall of basic math facts for students beginning in grade two. The key component is that it automatically differentiates instruction in achieving basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts through the adaptive nature of the program. Students log in and learn facts specific to their performance by tracking individual mastery on a learning grid. In other words, one student can be learning seven times four because the fact families through six are known while another student can be learning three times six because the fact families through two are known. The research behind the program was that of Dr. Ted Hasselbring and the concept of expanded learning. A site license is the only way to procure this system. Therefore, the entire school will benefit from the site license and it can be made available to all classrooms in the building. Because of the funding source, a decision was made to recommend that this program be purchased for four of our Title 1 schools. Permission to proceed with this purchase was given only after remaining Title 1 funds from FY08 were deemed available. FY08 Title 1 funding first supported teacher salary, student textbooks and materials, extended day programs, summer reading and summer school programs and Title 1 classroom math resources; only after those expenses were paid was money appropriated for this product. Purchase of four site licenses of Tom Snyder FASTT Math with tech support for \$36,535 will be covered by FY08 Title I funds. Because Title 1 money will be used to fund the program, the four participating schools will be Bower, Johnson, Washington, and Lincoln. A one day professional development session is included at no cost by the provider. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the purchase of FASTT Math for the four schools as presented.

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Swanson seconded to approve the purchase of the FASTT math for the four schools as presented from grant money at a cost of \$36,535. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Member Knicker reported that many years ago, Lincoln Principal Kathy DeMarzo sent a letter to Jim Belushi inviting him to come and read to the students at Lincoln School. Last week Mr. Belushi was in Chicago and decided to come to Wheaton by train, walk to Lincoln School and read to the students. It was a very exciting time at Lincoln.

Member Coghill updated the Board and community on the City of Wheaton Sesquicentennial activities. Many parts of the city are coming together to work on the celebrations. District 200 is involved in many ways including announcements at the WWS/WNHS football game regarding historical information about sports in Wheaton and the marching bands playing Happy Birthday during the half time of the game. Students will be working on painting murals for the downtown buildings along the railroad tracks as an extra-curricular activity. Member Coghill encouraged everyone to go the Wheaton web page and follow the link to see all of the upcoming events to celebrate the sesquicentennial.

Saturday, October 11 is the next Chat with the Board session. It will be held at the School Service Center from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

October 22, 2008 – Jefferson Preschool

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

President Johnson stated that the public comments are valuable and important to Board members. However, it is the Board’s policy not to take action on any items until time has been taken to gather adequate information and objectively discuss available options. Lack of action on comments made at this meeting does not imply any lack of interest in what has been said.

Speaker	Mark Stern
Topic	Maintenance at WNHS

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Knicker moved, Member Bomher seconded to suspend the rules and adjourn the meeting to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel Items 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), and Pending Litigation 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11). Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 8:10 PM.

Barbara Intihar, Secretary

Andrew Johnson, President